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## BOOK REVIEWS

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*First Lessons in Civics.* A Text-book for Use in Schools. By S. E. FORMAN, PH.D. (Johns Hopkins). New York: American Book Company, 1898. 192 pp.

THIS is a live book for live boys and girls below the secondary school. The order of its chapters is from the home to the school, and thence through the various local governments to the national. Its constant aim is to do two things for the young student: to connect all discussions with political events which interest him; and to nourish in him a healthy ethical purpose. In this twofold aim it succeeds well. Of its 102 pages devoted to local governments, 35 pages to state activities, and 45 pages to national affairs (leaving 10 pages to an index), there is not one that is so dead, so wholly given to the *mere anatomy of constitutions*, as were most of the pages of most text-books on civil government of a decade or two ago. From first to last it keeps the student sensitive toward the political activities which touch his own life. This is done, first by using familiar political events to illustrate general truth and principle, and, second, by valuable questions, with which nearly every chapter closes. Too many of these can be answered by yes or no, and it would have been good pedagogy to put some of them at the beginnings of chapters. A few choice references would also have been valuable. On the whole, the book is simple, scholarly, interesting, and vigorous. It should perform a distinct service for higher citizenship.

HENRY W. THURSTON

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*A Concise Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities:* Based on Sir William Smith's larger dictionary and incorporating the results of modern research. Edited by F. WARRE CORNISH, M.A., Vice Provost of Eton College. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1898.

THIS work corresponds in scope to Mandarin's edition of the *Classical Dictionary*, to which it is intended to be a companion volume. Like that book it is intended for the younger class of students and is